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Trade and Development Board
Trade and Development Commission
Multi-year Expert Meeting on Promoting Economic Integration and Cooperation
Fourth session
Geneva, 14–15 April 2016
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
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4. Adoption of the report of the meeting

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1
Election of officers

1. It is recommended that the expert meeting elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur.

Item 2
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. The provisional agenda for the fourth session of the multi-year expert meeting is reproduced in chapter I, above. A detailed programme will be available at least one week before the meeting.

Documentation

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Item 3
Improving all forms of cooperation and partnership for trade and development with a view to accomplishing the internationally agreed development goals

3. The fourth session of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Promoting Economic Integration and Cooperation will be held in accordance with the terms of reference approved by the Bureau of the Trade and Development Board on 18 September 2013. The objective of this session will be to explore the role and scope of international cooperation in building capacity to fight economic crises, ensure macroeconomic stability and build resilient economies in the long run, which are necessary conditions to increase the prospects for timely and effective achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

4. Timely and effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals by developing and transition economies warrants a supportive external economic environment. However, the effects of the 2008 financial crisis and the ensuing recession on trade, financial flows, investment, official development assistance and migration continue to reverberate throughout the developing economies, with the recent decline in capital inflows, external earnings and fiscal revenues threatening the development outlook for years to come. These dynamics critically affect the capabilities of developing countries to work towards accomplishment of the Sustainable Development Goals, such as accelerating sustainable and inclusive growth, ending poverty, curbing hunger and disease and building resilience. An effective response to the challenges arising from recurrent global financial and economic crises requires not only comprehensive actions at the global level, but also increased cooperation among countries of the South.

5. The fourth session of the multi-year expert meeting will explore these challenges and opportunities. A key focus will be on how the sharing of best practices and resources, and policy coordination among developing countries, as well as how making full use of existing policy space, can improve macroeconomic management and economic performance in ways that promote the timely and effective achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Experts are expected to bring to the meeting their own perspectives and to highlight specific issues in connection with their areas of expertise.

6. To facilitate discussion, the UNCTAD secretariat has prepared a background note. In addition, experts are encouraged to prepare articles on the subject under discussion. These papers will be made available at the meeting in the form and language in which they are received.

Documentation

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Item 4
Adoption of the report of the meeting

7. The report of the expert meeting will be submitted to the Trade and Development Commission at its next session. The expert meeting may wish to authorize the Rapporteur, under the authority of the Chair, to prepare the final report after the conclusion of the meeting.

Input from experts

Experts nominated by member States are encouraged to submit brief papers (approximately 5–12 pages) as contributions to the work of the meeting. The papers will be made available at the meeting in the form and language in which they are received. They should be submitted to the UNCTAD secretariat in advance of the meeting and addressed to:

Ms. Elissa Braunstein
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
Palais des Nations, CH-1211, Geneva, Switzerland
Tel.: 41 22 917 5857
Fax: 41 22 917 0050
E-mail: elissa.braunstein@unctad.org